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The VEGETABLE SITUATION

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In this issue:
Agricultural Act of 1954

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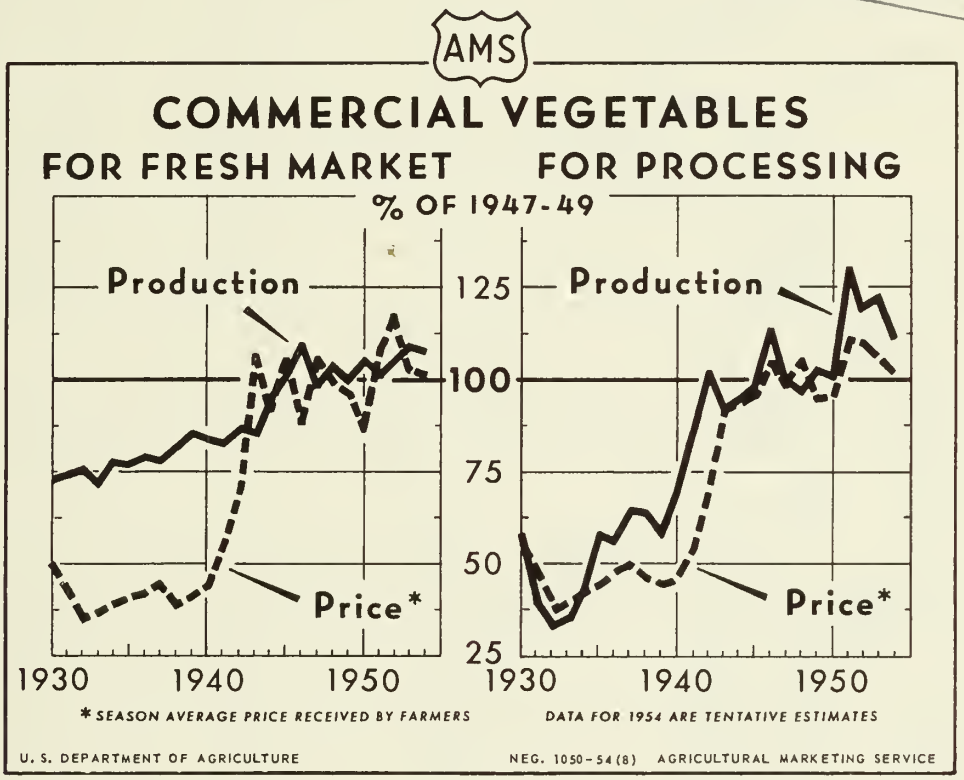
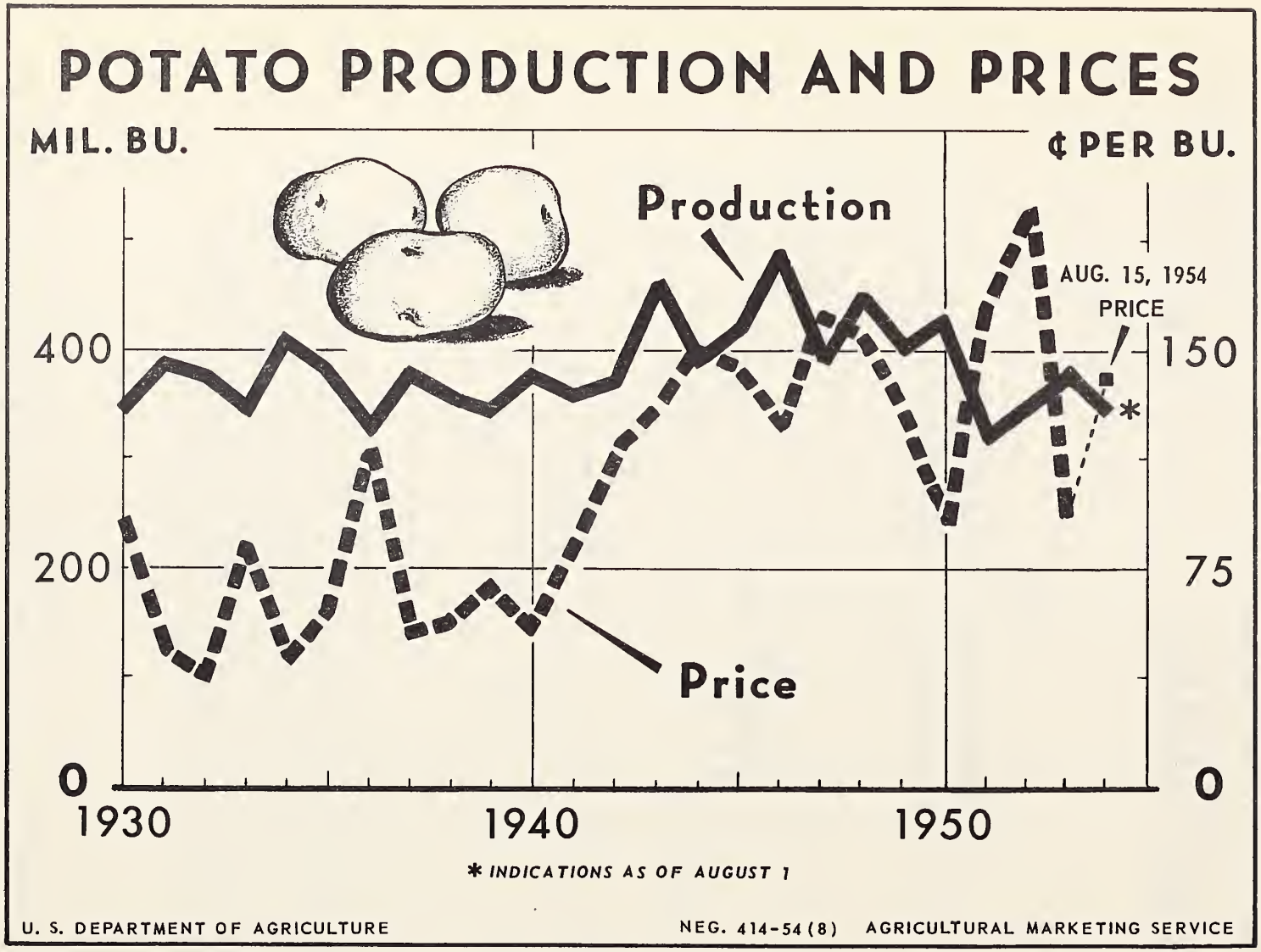


Since 1930 production of vegetables for commercial processing has increased more rapidly than output of those grown primarily for fresh market sale. To a large extent this reflects the expansion in consumer demand for processed foods. Since production of processing vegetables is largely contracted for well in advance of the growing season, farm prices and output generally move in the same direction. For the fresh market commodities, prices and production have generally moved in opposite directions. In 1955 vegetable production is expected to be relatively large, with prices likely to reflect the pattern of recent years.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE

AGRICULTURE - WASHINGTON



Usually, high prices for potatoes are associated with small crop and vice versa. The 1953 crop was moderately larger than that of 1952, while the season average price received by farmers for that year's crop of potatoes was considerably below that for the 1952 crop and the lowest since 1941. This was largely a result of delayed marketings, the effects of which lasted through the winter of 1954. With the 1954 crop indicated to be somewhat smaller than last year's and marketings likely to be more orderly, prices received by farmers for potatoes are expected to average much higher than the very low price of a year earlier.

THE VEGETABLE SITUATION

Approved by the Outlook and Situation Board, September 24, 1954

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SUMMARY

Since consumer income is expected to be relatively close to that of 1954, domestic demand for both commercial fresh and processed vegetables in 1955 probably will continue about as in the present year.

During the fall, total supplies of commercial vegetables marketed for fresh sale will be somewhat lighter than a year earlier, according to current indications. Production for fall-season sale probably will be moderately smaller than in the same part of 1953. Supplies of onions carried over from the summer harvest also will be down. Prices received by farmers for fresh market vegetables during the remainder of this year are expected to average somewhat higher than in the fall of 1953.

Cabbage and onions are the only 2 important commercially produced fresh vegetables for which supplies from the 1954 harvest will be marketed into early 1955. If marketings this fall follow the usual seasonal pattern, stocks next January 1 will be smaller than on the same date in 1954. The 1955 winter crop of cabbage will be smaller than that of a year earlier, according to farmers' planting intentions as of September 1, unless yields per acre are considerably higher. Accordingly, farm prices of cabbage and onions during the first quarter of next year probably will be generally higher than the low prices received during the same months of 1954.

The total 1954 pack of commercially processed vegetables will be smaller than that of last year. Output of the major vegetables for processing is expected to total moderately lower than in 1953. Through September 1, indicated production of the 9 important processing vegetables was 13 percent smaller than a year earlier. Last year, output of these items accounted for over 90 percent of the total production of vegetables for commercial processing.

Total supplies of commercially processed vegetables available for distribution during 1954-55 will not be down by as much as the 1954 crop of processing vegetables. The carryover into 1954-55 was somewhat larger than that of a year earlier. Total supplies will be large enough to maintain civilian consumption of commercially processed vegetables at the per capita rate of 1953-54.

At least until next spring, supplies of potatoes probably will be somewhat smaller than a year earlier, and farm prices will be much higher than the very low levels of late 1953 and early 1954. The 1954 late-potato crop, marketing of which will extend well into the second quarter of next year, is about 5 percent smaller than the corresponding 1953 crop. Growers' planting intentions indicate a smaller acreage for the winter-season crop than in 1954.

With prices since last May above those of a year earlier and likely to continue so in the next four or five months, farmers may plant a larger acreage to potatoes in 1955 than they did in 1954. If yields per acre for the 1955 crop are as high as those of the past three or four years, potato production will likely exceed that in 1954 and farm prices probably will average lower.

The sweetpotato crop this year is expected to be 14 percent less than last year's and the third smallest since 1881. Prices received by farmers for 1954-crop sweetpotatoes probably will average higher than for the 1953 crop.

Supplies of both dry edible beans and field peas in 1954-55 probably will be somewhat heavier than anticipated domestic utilization and exports. Farm prices of both commodities are expected to average lower than those received for the corresponding 1953 crop.

COMMERCIAL VEGETABLES FOR FRESH MARKET

Continued Strong Demand in Prospect for 1955

Current expectations are that consumers' spendable income next year will be relatively close to that of 1954. Accordingly, demand for commercial fresh vegetables in 1955 generally is expected to remain about as strong as this year. Prices received by farmers for vegetables for fresh sale will to a large extent depend upon production. If output is no larger than in 1954 and the movement to market follows the usual seasonal pattern, prices received next year probably will average close to those of this year.

Suggested Guides for 1955 Winter Crop

The U. S. Department of Agriculture has suggested a moderate reduction from a year earlier in the acreage of vegetables to be harvested in the winter of 1955. The suggested acreage is 4 percent smaller than that harvested last winter, and 5 percent below that in 1953. If yields per acre next winter average close to those of recent years, the tonnage would be about 6 percent below that in 1954 and 8 percent less than in 1953.

Prospective Larger Imports May Mean Increased Competition for Some Winter-Season Vegetables

Given satisfactory growing conditions in Mexico and Cuba, imports of fresh vegetables--especially of cucumbers, green peppers, and tomatoes--during next January-March may be somewhat larger than the relatively low level of last winter. Increased imports from these areas are expected because of the favorable prices received during the winter of 1954 and the improved transportation facilities between important growing sections in western Mexico and the United States. The price level last winter encouraged growers in Mexico to expand the acreage planted this year to winter-season vegetables.

Outlook for Major Fresh Vegetables

Cabbage---The early fall crop will be substantially smaller this year than last. According to September 1 prospects, output will total 476,600 tons, 15 percent below that of a year earlier and about as much below the 1949-52 average. For the relatively less important late fall cabbage crop, indications as of September 1 were for a 17 percent smaller acreage this year than last.

Cabbage supplies for fresh market sale this fall will not be down from last fall as much as production prospects indicate. With packers' 1953-pack carryover stocks of sauerkraut much heavier than those carried over from the 1952 pack a year earlier, open market purchases of cabbage for kraut this fall are not expected to equal those from the 1953 fall crop. Reduced purchases are anticipated even though supplies of cabbage for kraut from acreage contracted earlier in the year will be almost 15 percent smaller than in 1953.

The considerably smaller output in prospect for the storage-type cabbage this fall than last points to a smaller carryover next January 1, than on the same date in 1954. If this materializes, old-crop cabbage will have much less influence on cabbage prices during early next winter than a year earlier. During January 1954, and to a lesser extent in February, the large stocks carried over from the previous year tended to depress farm prices for winter-harvested cabbage.

Reports during late summer were that farmers intended to plant 42,100 acres--8 percent fewer than a year earlier--to cabbage for winter season harvest. Even if yields per acre equal the 1949-53 average (those of last winter were a little below) output of cabbage this winter will not equal the tonnage harvested a year earlier. With demand expected to be about as strong this winter as last and supplies smaller, prices received by farmers for cabbage during the first quarter of 1955 probably will average somewhat higher than the low prices in the same months of 1954, depending on the marketing pattern.

Onions---Until next spring, substantially fewer onions will be available than a year earlier, according to September 1 indications. The late-summer onion crop, the major source of supplies for sale through the first quarter of 1955, is 12 percent smaller than that harvested last year. The reduced output in part reflects farmers' response to the very low prices received for onions during the latter part of 1953 and early part of this year.

The demand for onions during the remainder of this year and well into 1955 probably will be close to that of a year earlier. Accordingly, with supplies during the next 6 to 7 months smaller than in the comparable part of 1953-54, prices received by farmers for this vegetable can be expected to remain well above the low prices of a year earlier.

Lettuce---Demand for lettuce is expected to continue strong in 1955. However, prices received by farmers next year will largely be determined by the volume of production and the marketing pattern. If the acreage planted to lettuce is no larger than in 1954 and yields per acre are not unusually heavy, prices received should average fairly close to the low prices of this year. As in the past, California and Arizona will produce most of the lettuce next year.

Tomatoes---The demand for tomatoes during the winter of 1954 was stronger than a year earlier. Production was more than a third higher than in the winter of 1953, more than enough to offset the sharp decline in imports, but prices received by farmers averaged about 4 percent higher.

The acreage farmers plant to tomatoes in areas which produce for the winter-season market may be influenced by their experience early this year, even though prospects are for heavier imports of tomatoes from Mexico this coming winter.

Output of tomatoes for early fall harvest (California) will be about 5 percent smaller this year than last but 8 percent larger than the 1949-52 average, according to September 1 indications. Acreage is up 6 percent, but yield per acre is expected to be down 10 percent. Last year, yields were unusually large due to favorable weather. Acreage for late-fall harvest is reported to be almost 19 percent larger than that harvested last year, but 10 percent below the 1949-52 average.

Annual Production This Year Expected to About Equal Last Year

Production estimates have not yet been made for all vegetable crops for fresh market sale this year. However, indications to date are that output probably will total close to that of last year.

In general, season average prices received by farmers for fresh vegetables this year should not differ substantially from those of 1953. Through August the prices-received index for vegetables averaged 7 percent below that of a year earlier largely because of the generally lower prices

in the first half of 1954. With demand about as strong as a year earlier and supplies a little lighter, farm prices for vegetables this fall are expected to average somewhat higher than in the same part of 1953.

VEGETABLES FOR COMMERCIAL PROCESSING

Outlook for 1955

Total supplies of commercially processed vegetables (canned and frozen, combined) through at least next summer are expected to be fairly close to those of the current year. Packers' and distributors' carryover stocks into current pack year total higher than at the beginning of the 1953 pack year, but this increase may in large part be offset by the expected somewhat smaller output this year than last. However, by drawing on stocks civilian per capita consumption of commercially processed vegetables in total can be maintained at about the 1954 rate. Retail demand for these products is expected to continue about as strong as in 1954.

No information is currently available relative to prospects for production of vegetables next year for commercial processing. The Department's suggestions as to production in 1955 will be developed later, when there are some indications as to the size of the 1954 packs and the level of stocks can be reappraised in light of the expected demand.

1954 Production for Processing Much Below Year-ago Level

According to indications through September 1, production of 9 major vegetables for processing will be 13 percent smaller this year than last. In 1953 output of these 9 items accounted for more than 90 percent of the total reported production of processing vegetables. In general the indicated output reduction from last year's level results from declines both in acreage and in the expected yield per acre.

Snap beans are the only processing crop for which a larger output than last year is in prospect. Substantial declines from 1953 are expected this year for beets, cabbage for kraut (contract), pimientos, spinach (winter and spring), and tomatoes. Although the acreages to be harvested for green lima beans, green peas, and pimientos is larger than last year, lower yields per acre are expected to result in reduced output of each crop. The acreage planted to cucumbers for pickles is almost 10 percent smaller this year than last.

CANNED VEGETABLES

Outlook for 1955

Demand for commercially canned vegetables is expected to continue relatively strong through next year. At least until the 1955 packs start moving to market in volume next summer, total supplies are expected to be somewhat smaller than a year earlier. The latest available data indicate

that carryover stocks from the 1953 packs will be moderately higher than those of last year. By drawing on stocks during the year, civilian per capita consumption of canned vegetables in 1954-55 can be maintained close to the 1953-54 rates.

For a number of canned vegetables competition from frozen vegetables is expected to continue at least as strong as that of a year earlier. But the total volume of frozen vegetables taken by consumers will continue to be very small relative to canned vegetables. In the past few years civilians have consumed about 8 pounds of canned product to 1 pound of the frozen.

Outlook is for Smaller Canned Vegetable Pack This Year Than Last

1954 pack data are currently available for only 2 canned vegetables. The output of asparagus is 24 percent larger than that in 1953, but that of canned peas is down by 15 percent. For the other canned vegetables, production prospects indicate that snap beans is the only important item for which the 1954 canned pack may be larger than in 1953. Although the total output of canned whole tomatoes and tomato products will be somewhat smaller than last year, one or more of the tomato items may be about the same or even larger. This will depend mainly on packers' anticipations of demand for tomatoes and the individual products, and to some extent on the quality of the product available for canning. Latest available reports show both packers' and distributors' stocks of canned tomatoes and tomato products other than tomato juice to be somewhat smaller than a year earlier.

Packers' Stocks Up and Distributors' Stocks Down From Year-Ago Level

Total stocks of canned vegetables as of recent dates were up moderately from a year earlier. In general, the increase was in inventories held by packers; distributors' stocks were down a little from a year ago.

Among the 5 major commodities, combined packers and distributors' stocks of canned snap beans, sweet corn, green peas, and tomato and vegetable combination juices at about midyear were much larger than at the same time in 1953, but those of canned whole tomatoes were down fairly sharply. Although smaller than a year earlier, total stocks of whole tomatoes were the second largest since the end of World War II. The increase for snap beans was especially large, but stocks on July 1, 1953 were relatively very small. This item was the only one of the 5 items for which distributors' holdings at midyear were up from a year earlier.

For the other important canned vegetables, total stocks of lima beans, beets, carrots, and sauerkraut were much larger, as of recent dates, than at the same time last year. Declines were reported for canned asparagus, pumpkin and squash, spinach, and each of the canned tomato products other than juice.

FROZEN VEGETABLES

Outlook for 1955

Consumer demand for frozen vegetables in 1955 is expected to be maintained at a high rate. Civilian consumption of these processed foods probably will continue at or close to the current record rate per person.

Present expectations are that the 1954 frozen vegetable pack may not exceed the record level reached last year. However, stocks of frozen vegetables in cold storage at the beginning of the current marketing year were somewhat larger than a year earlier. Thus, even if production is a little lower than in 1953, supplies during the 1954-55 marketing year are likely to be large enough to maintain civilian consumption per person close to or even a little above this year's record rate.

Holdings of frozen vegetables in cold storage on September 1 totaled over 604 million pounds, 5 percent up from a year earlier and the largest on record for that date. Among the major items, lima beans, snap beans, Brussels sprouts, and sweet corn were the only ones for which holdings were larger than a year ago. Stocks of sweet corn were almost twice the relatively low holdings on September 1, 1953, and may be a little heavier than necessary for operating purposes even though the trend in the per capita consumption is expected to continue upward.

POTATOES

Outlook for 1955

The crop of potatoes from the 29 late States, most of which will be marketed from this fall into next spring, is expected to be 5 percent smaller than that of last year, according to September 1 prospects. However, the geographical pattern of production of this crop is much better than for the 1953 late crop. Farm prices are expected to average much above the very low level of a year earlier. However, the size of the increase will be influenced not only by the marketing pattern for the late-crop potatoes, but also by both the size and marketing pattern for the 1955 early crop.

While our international trade in potatoes is relatively small in terms of the total crop, the transactions are important. Present prospects are that imports will be slightly smaller than in 1954 and exports a little larger.

Production of commercial early potatoes for harvest next winter is likely to be smaller than the corresponding 1954 crop unless yields per acre average considerably above the record large yields in winter 1954. Reports as of September 1 from growers in Florida and Texas indicate that they intend to plant 11,300 acres of potatoes for harvest in the winter of 1955. This is 7 percent less than a year earlier, and 2 percent below the average for 1949-53.

The higher prices than a year earlier received since last May and the prospect that they will continue so for the next four or five months may encourage farmers to plant a larger acreage to potatoes than they did in 1954. Therefore, if yields per acre next year are as high as those of the past three or four years, the 1955 potato crop may exceed that of the preceding year. In the past, annual production and the season-average price for potatoes have generally moved in opposite directions.

1954 Potato Crop Down From Year Earlier

Production of potatoes this year will total 345.5 million bushels, according to the crop report of September 10. This is 28 million bushels -- almost 8 percent -- below last years' output, and the second smallest in 15 years. The decline results from the smaller acreage to be harvested. Indicated yields per acre are expected to be about the same as in 1953.

The greatest percentage reduction this year compared with last occured for the early States, 18 percent, but the decline in bushels was only 12 million. For the late States, production is down only about 5 percent, or almost 14 million bushels.

1954 Late Potato Crop Smaller in All Major Regions

Fewer potatoes will be available this year than last from the 3 major regions which produce for late-season harvest. In the Eastern area reduced output is expected in most of the important potato-producing States. Minnesota and North Dakota are the only 2 major States in the Central region for which production this year will surpass that of last year. But the increase will not be sufficient to offset indicated declines elsewhere in the region. Among the Western States the late-potato crop will be up from that in 1953 in California, Oregon and Washington; the same in Idaho; but down in the other important producing States.

Production of potatoes in Maine was forecast at 51.5 million bushels (11 percent smaller than last year), based on September 1 growing conditions, Both acreage and yields are down. This year the major part of the movement of Maine potatoes into consumption channels are subject to control under a marketing order.

In Idaho, the second largest producer of late-crop potatoes, output is currently forecast at 45.9 million bushels, equal to 1953 and almost 11 percent above the 1943-52 average.

Higher Prices Indicated for Remaining 1954 Crop Potatoes

Prices received by growers for potatoes have averaged much higher this summer than a year earlier. They declined slightly in July and August under the impact of seasonally heavy supplies, but the August 15 average of

$1.41 per bushel was 57 cents higher than a year earlier. Since mid-August, prices have declined further at important country shipping points. Prices frequently decline during late summer and early fall as large quantities of newly-harvested potatoes from the late States become available and supplies of home-grown potatoes are seasonally heavy.

With the late crop moderately smaller than a year ago, prices are expected to continue higher this fall than last, assuming a normal flow of potatoes to market. In this case storage stocks of 1954-crop potatoes would be lighter on January 1, 1955 than a year earlier, and prices next winter also can be expected to average higher than in this part of 1954.

Maine Potatoes Now Covered by Marketing Agreement and Order

Following approval by growers earlier this summer the U. S. Department of Agriculture issued a marketing agreement and companion marketing order relating to Maine potatoes, both of which became effective August 30, 1954. This action authorizes grade, size, quality, and maturity regulations pertaining to the marketing of potatoes from this State. A marketing committee, comprised of 15 producers and 5 handlers, is to recommend to the Secretary of Agriculture the particular regulations that he should make effective to operate the program.

In addition to the Maine potato marketing order program, 7 other Federal marketing orders for potatoes are in effect, namely: Idaho - Malheur County, Oregon; Colorado; Central Oregon - Northern California: Washington; Eastern South Dakota; Virginia - North Carolina; and the remainder of the New England area including Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont. On the basis of last year's production, about 44 percent of the total U. S. crop and 57 percent of the late crop is now covered by Federal marketing orders. The purpose of such program is to promote the orderly marketing of potatoes and thus to increase returns to growers.

SWEETPOTATOES

Outlook for 1955

Demand for sweetpotatoes in 1955 is expected to be much the same as in 1954. With prices for the 1954-55 season likely to be somewhat higher than in 1953-54, commercial growers may be inclined to increase planted acreage in 1955. But any increase probably will be tempered by the relatively heavy labor requirements for growing, harvesting, and handling the crop. Moreover, disease such as blackrot, and pests such as weevil, continue to discourage increases in acreage. Acreage trended sharply downward from 1932 to 1951 and it has held fairly steady since then at about one-third the 1932 figure. Even with no increase in acreage in 1955, average growing conditions probably would result in small increase in production. Because of the small 1954 crop, however, supplies of sweetpotatoes in January-June 1955 are expected to be smaller than in the first half of 1954.

Smaller 1954 Crop

The 1954 crop of sweetpotatoes was estimated as of September 1 at 29.1 million bushels, 14 percent under the relatively small 1953 crop, more than 42 percent below the 1943-52 average, and the third smallest since 1881. The two smaller crops were the 1951 crop of 28.8 million bushels and the 1952 crop of 28.5 million bushels. Most of the reduction from 1953 results from the indicated yield per acre of 84.3 bushels. This is 13 percent under last year, and reflects in part drought damage in many States. The 1954 acreage for harvest is indicated to be 346,000 acres, down 1 percent from 1953. Among the heavier producing States, larger crops are expected in 1954 in Louisiana, California, and Tennessee, but smaller crops in New Jersey, Mississippi, all the South Atlantic States, Texas, and Alabama. Supplies of sweetpotatoes this fall and winter are expected to be somewhat smaller than a year earlier.

Higher Average Price for the 1954 Crop Seems Probable

In mid-August, the average price received by farmers for sweetpotatoes was $2.59 per bushel, 14 percent lower than the mid-July price and more than 25 percent below the high price of a year earlier. The decline from July to August reflects the seasonal increase in harvestings and shipments to market. For the 1954 crop as a whole, prices received by farmers may average somewhat above those received from the preceding crop. In 1953, prices at midyear were very high, but they declined substantially by September and remained lower than a year earlier during the remainder of the marketing season. A decline of this size is not expected to occur this year in view of both the 14 percent smaller crop in prospect and the fact that the price in July 1953 was the second highest of record for that month.

DRY EDIBLE BEANS

Outlook for 1955

Domestic use for food and seed next year probably will be much the same as this year. Unless an unusual foreign demand for beans arises, exports probably will be no higher than in 1954. With prospective supplies of beans for 1954-55 likely to be somewhat larger than those of a year earlier, prices for the larger 1954 crop probably will continue lower in the 1954-55 season than those in 1953-54. With the utilization of beans about as large this season as last, somewhat larger carryover stocks of beans are in prospect for fall 1955. Lower prices for the 1954 crop and the outlook for increased carryover stocks are among the important factors which may lead to some reduction in the acreage planted to dry beans in 1955. In addition, Department of Agriculture action relative to price supports and acreage restrictions may also affect the size of the planted acreage.

Increased Production in 1954

The 1954 crop of dry edible beans was estimated as of September 1 at 19.1 million bags (100 pounds, uncleaned). This is more than 5 percent larger than the 1953 crop, 9 percent above the 1943-52 average, and the largest since 1949. The increase over last year is the result of a 13 percent gain in acreage for harvest, which more than offsets the 7-percent decrease from the 1953 record yield per acre.

Prospective production is larger this year in all heavy producing States except New York, Colorado and Wyoming, where dry weather reduced yields. The only dry beans reported for Colorado are Pintos which in 1953 accounted for 45 percent of the total Pinto production. Except possibly for Pinto, California blackeye and Red Kidney beans, production of the principal varieties probably will be larger than in 1953. The substantial output increase in Washington this year is expected to result in a sharp increase in the supplies of small red beans.

Larger Supplies Than Year Earlier in Prospect for 1954-55

Total supplies of dry edible beans in 1954-55 are expected to be about 5 percent larger than in 1953-54 as a result of increased production. For Pinto beans, despite the prospective decline in output, supplies will be larger than a year earlier because of the heavy carryover stocks. Imports may be above those of 1953-54, which were smaller than usual. Domestic utilization of beans in 1954-55 probably will be about as large as in 1953-54, but exports may be somewhat smaller. The large crop in prospect in Mexico is expected to sharply curtail or practically eliminate our exports to that country. In the past few years Mexico has been a major importer of beans, principally Pintos. Hence, there is likely to be some increase in carryover stocks at the start of the 1955-56 season.

Price Supports Lower for Larger 1954 Crop

Prices for 1954-crop dry edible beans will be supported by the U. S. Department of Agriculture on the basis of a national average price of $7.24 per 100 pounds, as announced on March 4, 1954. This compares with the 1953 support price of $7.79. Support prices per 100 pounds, U. S. No. 1 grade, for specified classes of 1954-crop beans range from $6.06 for baby limas to $10.81 for large limas. Prices will be supported by non-recourse loans to producers for beans stored on farms and in warehouses, and through purchase agreements with producers.

With lower support prices and larger domestic supplies, grower prices for the 1954 bean crop are likely to average under the price of $8.28 per 100 pounds for the 1953 crop. For each month of the first half of 1954, prices received by growers for dry beans averaged $8.00 or slightly higher. Prices dropped to $7.88 in July and to $7.72 in August. In August 1953, prices averaged $9.38 per 100 pounds.

DRY FIELD PEAS

Outlook for 1955

Total domestic utilization (food and non-food) of dry field peas in 1955 is not expected to be greatly different from that in 1954. Exports are likely to remain relatively small. With prices in the first half of 1955 likely to continue under a year earlier and prospects pointing to increased carryover stocks at the start of the 1955-56 season, growers may reduce the acreage planted in 1955, especially where more advantageous alternative enterprises are available. More nearly average yields also would reduce output. The indicated average yield per acre this year is 5 percent higher than that in 1953 and 8 percent above the 1943-52 average.

Larger 1954 Crop

Production of dry field peas in 1954 was estimated as of September 1, at 3.9 million bags (100 pounds, uncleaned). Although this is 15 percent above 1953 and the largest crop since 1947, it is 30 percent under the 1943-52 average. The large 1954 crop is the result mainly of substantial increases in production in Washington and Idaho, which accounted for almost 90 percent of the total crop in prospect.

With the larger crop and probably some increases in carryover from previous years, total supplies of peas in 1954-55 will be moderately larger than in 1953-54. Supplies will be more than enough for domestic food, feed and seed needs and exports at the rates of recent years. Unless there is some increase in domestic utilization or in exports, both of which are not now in sight, there probably will be a heavier carryover into the 1955-56 season. In view of the above, grower prices for the larger 1954 crop may average under the price of $5.12 per 100 pounds, for the 1953 crop. Prices in August averaged $4.07, which was $1.08 lower than in August 1953.

IMPORTANT PROVISIONS OF THE AGRICULTURAL ACT OF 1954 RELATING TO VEGETABLES 1/

With this Act, potatoes are made eligible for price support--along with other nonmandatory commodities-- at zero to 90 percent of parity. This means that the Secretary of Agriculture is given discretionary authority to support the price of potatoes in the same manner as is available for producers of other fruits and vegetables.

The Act authorizes marketing agreements and orders to continue in operation for all vegetables and fruits during periods when the price of the regulated commodity is at or above parity, so as to provide an orderly flow of the supply of the commodity to market during the normal marketing season and to avoid unreasonable fluctuations in supplies and prices.

1/ Public Law No. 690. Approved August 28, 1954.

Marketing orders may fix the size, capacity, weight, dimensions, or pack of the container, or containers, which may be used in the packaging, transportation, sale, shipment, or handling of any fresh or dried fruits, vegetables, or tree nuts. However, no action is to be taken that will conflict with the Standard Containers Act of 1916 and the Standard Containers Act of 1928.

Marketing research and development projects designed to assist, improve, or promote the marketing, distribution, and consumption of any commodity or product under a marketing order may be established. The expense of such projects is to be paid from funds collected pursuant to that order.

The Act prohibits the importation of tomatoes, avocados, limes, grapefruit, green peppers, Irish potatoes, cucumbers, or eggplants that fail to meet the requirements as to grade, size, quality, or maturity in effect with respect to such commodity under a marketing order. (Among these commodities, marketing orders are in effect at the present time only for avocados, grapefruit, and Irish potatoes.) The prohibition shall not apply to such commodities when shipped into continental United States from Puerto Rico or any territory or possession where the Marketing Agreements Act has force and effect. Whenever the terms and provisions of a domestic marketing agreement or order are not applicable to similar imported fruits and vegetables, the Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to establish regulations on the imported commodity that are comparable or equivalent to those imposed on the domestic commodity.

TRENDS IN CIVILIAN PER CAPITA CONSUMPTION OF FRESH AND PROCESSED VEGETABLES SINCE 1937: FINAL DATA FOR 1953

The special article on the subject appeared in the July 28 issue (TVS-113) of The Vegetable Situation, and was based on preliminary statistics for 1953. Tables 1 to 3 of this issue contain the final statistics for 1953. The data in table 2 have been completely recomputed to tie in with table 1; the original figures in the former table were based on unrounded data.

Table 1.- Civilian per capita consumption of commercially produced vegetables, United States, 1937-53

Year	Fresh equivalent					As percentage of annual total			
	Total fresh and processed	Fresh 1/	Processed 2/			Fresh	Processed		
			Total	Canned	Frozen		Total	Canned	Frozen
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
1937	164.9	111.0	53.9	52.9	1.0	67.3	32.7	32.1	.6
1938	171.5	114.3	57.2	56.3	.9	66.7	33.3	32.8	.5
1939	175.8	117.2	58.6	57.4	1.2	66.7	33.3	32.6	.7
1940	180.7	117.4	63.3	61.9	1.4	65.0	35.0	34.2	.8
1941	182.1	114.4	67.7	66.0	1.7	62.8	37.2	36.3	.9
1942	193.8	119.6	74.2	71.7	2.5	61.7	38.3	37.0	1.3
1943	185.2	116.1	69.1	67.5	1.6	62.7	37.3	36.4	.9
1944	197.9	127.1	70.8	67.0	3.8	64.2	35.8	33.9	1.9
1945	225.0	138.5	86.5	82.2	4.3	61.6	38.4	36.5	1.9
1946	229.4	136.8	92.6	88.0	4.6	59.6	40.4	38.4	2.0
1947	208.8	126.3	82.5	76.4	6.1	60.5	39.5	36.6	2.9
1948	203.7	128.3	75.4	68.4	7.0	63.0	37.0	33.6	3.4
1949	198.1	121.9	76.2	69.4	6.8	61.5	38.5	35.1	3.4
1950	206.0	122.9	83.1	75.7	7.4	59.7	40.3	36.7	3.6
1951	206.1	119.1	87.0	77.8	9.2	57.8	42.2	37.7	4.5
1952	206.9	120.2	86.7	75.2	11.5	58.1	41.9	36.3	5.6
1953	208.6	119.3	89.3	77.2	12.1	57.2	42.8	37.0	5.8

1/ Excluding melons.

2/ Data include pickles and sauerkraut in bulk and excludes canned potatoes, canned sweetpotatoes and quantities consumed in commercially produced soups and baby foods.

Consumption of Food in the United States, 1909-52 (Agriculture Handbook No. 62) and the July-September 1954 issue of The National Food Situation. Data for processed vegetables converted to fresh equivalent basis using factors presented in Conversion Factors and Weights and Measures for Agricultural Commodities and Their Products (May 1952 edition.) with the following exceptions: frozen broccoli, 1.333 beginning 1948; frozen Brussels sprouts, 1.282 beginning 1937.

Table 2.- Civilian per capita consumption of commercially produced vegetables, United States, 1937-53

(Index 1937-39 = 100)

Year	Total fresh and processed	Fresh 1/	Processed 2/		
			Total	Canned	Frozen
1937	97	97	95	95	97
1938	100	100	101	102	87
1939	103	103	104	103	116
1940	106	103	112	112	140
1941	107	100	120	119	170
1942	114	105	131	129	250
1943	108	102	122	122	160
1944	116	111	125	121	380
1945	132	121	153	148	430
1946	134	120	164	159	460
1947	122	111	146	138	610
1948	119	112	133	123	700
1949	116	107	135	125	680
1950	121	108	147	136	740
1951	121	104	154	140	920
1952	121	105	153	135	1,150
1953	122	104	158	139	1,210

1/ Excluding melons.

2/ Calculated from data on fresh equivalent. Data include pickles and sauerkraut in bulk and exclude canned potatoes, canned sweet potatoes and quantities consumed in commercially produced soups and baby foods.

Consumption of Food in the United States, 1909-52 (Agriculture Handbook No. 62) and the July-September 1954 issue of The National Food Situation. Data for processed vegetables converted to fresh equivalent basis using factors presented in Conversion Factors and Weights and Measures for Agricultural Commodities and Their Products (May 1952 edition.), with the following exceptions: frozen broccoli, 1.333 beginning 1948; Brussels sprouts, 1.282 beginning 1937.

Table 3.- Civilian per capita consumption of selected commercially produced fresh and processed vegetables 1/, United States, calendar years 1937-53

Commodity	Fresh equivalent basis																
	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953 prel.
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds
Asparagus																	
fresh	1.2	1.1	1.3	1.5	1.5	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.1	.9	.9	.9	.8	.9	.8
canned	.69	.60	.75	.82	.81	.91	.82	.83	.48	1.28	.75	.93	.85	.86	.93	.87	1.02
frozen	.06	.10	.06	.10	.10	.08	.12	.20	.28	.24	.24	.30	.24	.24	.26	.30	.32
Beans, lima 2/																	
fresh	.7	.8	.9	.8	.8	.7	.6	.6	.6	.7	.6	.6	.5	.5	.4	.4	.4
canned	.48	.46	.55	.72	.77	.79	.59	.32	.46	.48	.48	.51	.51	.81	.69	.65	.65
frozen	.22	.20	.24	.29	.24	.53	.31	.38	.38	.60	.82	.87	1.09	1.11	1.20	1.56	1.60
Beans, snap																	
fresh	3.9	4.7	4.9	5.0	4.5	4.9	5.5	5.0	5.2	5.2	4.5	4.7	4.6	4.4	4.4	3.9	4.0
canned	1.27	1.47	1.53	1.68	1.66	1.90	1.91	2.10	2.41	2.36	1.98	2.06	2.13	2.46	2.33	2.48	2.54
frozen	.06	.06	.05	.05	.09	.13	.06	.19	.24	.25	.33	.38	.35	.44	.56	.66	.71
Broccoli																	
fresh	.6	.7	.8	.6	.7	.6	.7	1.0	.9	1.0	.9	.9	.9	1.0	.7	.9	.8
frozen	.01	.03	.03	.01	.04	.04	.04	.04	.11	.17	.16	.23	.28	.28	.40	.57	.57
Cabbage																	
fresh	17.5	19.5	16.2	18.3	16.0	18.6	16.8	19.5	20.3	17.5	16.8	16.4	15.6	14.4	13.7	13.3	13.4
canned 3/	1.81	2.39	2.59	2.64	2.90	2.74	2.30	.84	1.35	2.96	3.09	1.46	2.52	2.40	2.94	2.51	2.02
Corn 4/																	
fresh	5.0	5.1	5.0	5.6	6.2	6.7	6.2	6.6	7.8	7.6	7.6	8.6	7.5	8.0	7.8	8.0	8.1
canned	9.71	10.09	10.70	11.15	11.89	13.91	13.40	12.54	13.93	15.60	14.59	12.42	12.19	13.02	12.19	12.09	12.92
frozen	.17	.13	.21	.25	.21	.29	.10	.48	.50	.63	1.08	1.00	.93	.89	1.27	1.60	1.95
Cucumbers																	
fresh	2.1	2.3	2.4	2.2	2.3	2.1	1.7	1.8	2.4	2.9	2.5	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.8	3.0	2.9
canned 5/	1.99	2.20	2.18	2.08	2.43	2.75	2.41	2.17	2.23	2.82	3.15	3.27	3.21	3.20	3.00	3.46	3.77
Peas, green 2/																	
fresh	2.3	2.1	2.3	2.1	2.0	1.7	1.6	1.7	1.5	1.4	1.1	.9	.8	.7	.5	.5	.4
canned	7.66	8.06	8.28	9.14	10.23	10.58	9.73	8.77	11.89	12.65	9.71	9.64	8.84	9.04	8.87	8.52	8.22
frozen	.42	.42	.63	.59	.87	1.12	.73	1.57	1.74	1.66	2.28	2.67	2.08	2.39	2.81	3.20	3.43
Spinach																	
fresh	2.6	2.4	2.9	2.7	2.6	2.5	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.1	1.9	1.7	1.6	1.5	1.3	1.0	1.1
canned	.87	.81	.80	.97	.80	1.12	.75	1.23	.97	1.44	.99	.90	.99	.82	1.06	.92	.90
frozen	.04	.04	.02	.07	.02	.24	.20	.31	.47	.36	.40	.56	.51	.67	.89	.89	.91
Tomatoes																	
fresh	12.6	13.7	13.9	13.1	12.9	14.1	14.4	14.8	17.0	16.4	14.7	14.9	14.0	13.4	13.8	13.7	13.3
canned 6/	24.91	25.79	25.99	28.31	30.02	32.76	31.48	34.01	43.39	42.82	36.60	32.10	33.64	37.09	40.42	38.17	39.74

1/ Data for processed vegetables include pickles and sauerkraut in bulk, and exclude quantities consumed in commercially produced soups, baby foods, and vegetable mixtures such as peas and carrots, and succotash. 2/ "In-pod" basis. 3/ Sauerkraut, canned and bulk. 4/ "On-cob" basis. 5/ Pickles, canned and bulk. 6/ Including canned whole tomatoes and tomato products other than soup.

Sources: Consumption of Food in the United States, 1909-52 (Agriculture Handbook No. 62) and the July-September 1954 issue of The National Food Situation. Data for the processed vegetables were converted to a fresh equivalent basis using factors presented in Conversion Factors and Weights and Measures for Agricultural Commodities and their Products (May 1952 edition), with the following exceptions: frozen broccoli, 1.333 beginning 1948; Brussels sprouts, 1.232 beginning 1937

Table 4.- Vegetables, fresh, potatoes and sweetpotatoes: Unloads at 19 markets, indicated periods in 1954, with comparisons
(Expressed in carlot equivalents)

Commodity	1953								1954							
	May				June				May				June			
	Rail, boat, and air	Truck	Imports	Total	Rail, boat, and air	Truck	Imports	Total	Rail, boat, and air	Truck	Imports	Total	Rail, boat, and air	Truck	Imports	Total
Asparagus	260	838	---	1,098	---	598	---	598	26	810	---	836	20	540	---	560
Beans, lima, snap and fava	282	776	3	1,061	78	1,398	---	1,476	305	1,234	---	1,539	617	948	1	1,566
Beets	18	211	---	229	7	299	---	306	18	179	---	197	3	273	---	276
Broccoli	175	112	---	287	40	96	---	136	151	100	---	251	56	134	---	190
Brussels sprouts	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	5	---	5	---	---	---	---
Cabbage	780	1,817	---	2,597	144	2,152	13	2,309	597	2,010	---	2,607	161	1,966	---	2,127
Cantaloups and other melons 1/	500	241	454	1,195	3,765	897	36	4,698	1,218	622	402	2,242	4,518	1,907	2	6,427
Carrots	1,554	382	---	1,936	1,308	379	---	1,687	1,115	570	---	1,685	1,011	540	---	1,551
Cauliflower	165	403	---	568	88	589	8	685	161	315	---	476	74	514	---	588
Celery	1,474	1,087	---	2,561	1,290	1,067	---	2,357	1,563	911	---	2,474	1,229	1,266	---	2,495
Corn	1,037	947	---	1,984	698	1,426	---	2,124	979	1,009	---	1,988	1,192	1,367	---	2,559
Cucumbers	271	972	1	1,244	106	1,499	1	1,606	477	1,303	---	1,780	253	1,582	---	1,835
Escarole and endive	83	200	---	283	31	274	---	305	93	144	4	241	14	235	---	249
Lettuce and romaine	3,522	2,472	---	5,994	2,558	3,975	29	6,562	2,949	2,376	---	5,325	2,227	4,148	---	6,375
Onions, dry	1,566	735	4	2,305	1,563	947	53	2,563	1,464	1,174	6	2,644	1,683	959	---	2,642
Onions, green 2/	6	388	3	397	---	377	---	377	117	361	1	479	---	298	---	298
Peas, green	131	64	---	195	165	143	---	308	131	145	---	276	109	190	---	299
Peppers	508	455	24	987	213	589	17	819	288	552	18	858	481	544	10	1,035
Spinach	13	585	---	598	1	553	---	554	15	424	---	439	18	418	---	436
Other cooking greens	34	727	---	761	1	598	---	599	39	526	---	565	6	375	---	381
Squash	59	445	3	507	6	530	4	540	38	444	2	484	29	521	---	550
Tomatoes	2,127	1,734	99	3,960	1,835	2,748	2	4,585	1,908	2,260	10	4,178	2,530	2,989	3	5,522
Turnips and rutabagas	3	135	72	210	9	171	29	209	54	141	---	195	11	110	---	121
Watermelons	2,053	1,170	146	3,369	4,928	3,911	8	8,847	1,542	1,001	120	2,663	7,009	5,160	---	12,169
Other vegetables (including mixed)	769	1,506	46	2,321	345	1,583	44	1,972	875	1,423	9	2,307	354	1,340	6	1,700
TOTAL ABOVE	17,390	18,402	855	36,647	19,179	26,799	244	46,222	16,123	20,039	572	36,734	23,605	28,324	22	51,951
Potatoes	7,481	4,000	21	11,502	8,017	5,481	9	13,507	7,887	4,111	---	11,998	7,601	5,238	---	12,839
Sweetpotatoes	33	388	---	421	24	247	---	271	30	535	7	572	25	217	---	242
GRAND TOTAL	24,904	22,790	876	48,570	27,220	32,527	253	60,000	24,040	24,685	579	49,304	31,231	33,779	22	65,032

1/ Except watermelons. 2/Includes shallots, chives, cipolinas, leeks, scallions, and green onions.
Markets include: Atlanta, Baltimore, Boston, Chicago, Cleveland, Dallas and Ft. Worth, Detroit, Los Angeles, New Orleans, New York, Oakland (California), Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, St. Louis, San Francisco, Seattle, Kansas City (Missouri), Denver, and Washington D. C.

Table 5.- Vegetables for fresh market: Reported commercial acreage and production, average 1949-52, annual 1953, and indicated 1954

Seasonal group and crop	Acreage				Production (equivalent tons) 1/			
	Average 1949-52 2/	1953	Indicated 1954		Average 1949-52 2/	1953	Indicated 1954	
			Amount	Percentage of 1953			Amount	Percentage of 1953
	Acres	Acres	Acres	Percent	1,000 tons	1,000 tons	1,000 tons	Percent
WINTER 3/	277,520	273,400	273,590	100	1,452.8	1,560.1	1,508.5	97
SPRING 4/	674,550	716,100	770,550	108	2,263.8	2,492.8	2,569.8	103
SUMMER 3/	919,110	944,130	969,940	103	4,049.5	4,297.2	4,226.5	98
FALL								
Beans, lima	690	400	350	88	1.1	.6	.5	83
Beans, snap	21,310	19,850	19,000	96	38.0	41.7	36.3	87
Cabbage:								
Early	50,090	49,860	45,420	91	545.1	559.0	476.6	85
Late	4,390	5,050	4,200	83	---	---	---	--
Carrots	29,410	28,650	29,140	102	347.3	377.0	369.4	98
Cauliflower 5/	8,740	8,600	8,300	97	73.8	63.2	62.3	99
Celery:								
Early	5,220	4,580	4,250	93	69.8	64.4	57.0	89
Late	8,760	8,200	7,550	92	---	---	---	--
Cucumbers 5/	3,820	4,400	3,500	80	16.4	21.2	17.7	83
Lettuce 5/	45,630	45,870	42,560	93	260.8	274.3	266.6	97
Green peas 5/	2,750	2,400	2,300	96	4.6	4.1	4.0	93
Spinach 5/	7,630	6,600	6,950	105	24.1	22.2	22.6	102
Tomatoes:								
Early	17,950	16,000	17,000	106	124.6	142.0	135.2	95
Late	18,850	14,300	17,000	119	---	---	---	--
Total fall to date:								
Acreage and production	193,240	187,210	178,770	95	1,505.6	1,569.7	1,448.2	92
Acreage	225,240	214,760	207,520	97	---	---	---	--
Total fall	308,350	302,360	---	--	1,981.2	2,077.8	---	--
	Reported to date for 1954, with comparisons 4/							
Acreage and production	2,064,420	2,120,840	2,192,850	103	9,271.7	9,919.8	9,753.0	98
Acreage	2,096,420	2,148,390	2,221,600	103	---	---	---	--
ANNUAL TOTAL	2,179,530	2,235,990	---	---	9,747.4	10,427.9	---	--

1/ Equivalent tons based on approximate net weight of unit in which reported.

2/ For seasonal group and annual totals, averages of the yearly totals, not the sum of the crop averages.

3/ Includes cabbage used for sauerkraut.

4/ Includes asparagus used for processing and cabbage for sauerkraut.

5/ Acreage and production for early fall only.

Table 6.- Vegetables, fresh: Representative prices (l.c.l. sales) at New York and Chicago for stock of generally good quality and condition (U.S. No. 1 when available) indicated periods, 1953 and 1954

Market, commodity, and State of orgin	Unit	Tuesday nearest mid-month			
		1953		1954	
		Aug. 18	Sept. 15	Aug. 17	Sept. 14
		Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
New York					
Beans, snap, green, New Jersey 1/	Bu.	2/ 2.20	2/ 4.00	2.39	2.23
Beets, New Jersey	Melon crt., 24 bunches	3/ 1.12	3/ 1.15	.92	.87
Broccoli, Pennsylvania	4/5 bu. box	2.50	2.00	2.53	3.00
Broccoli, California	Pony crt.	6.58	6.50	---	6.25
Cabbage, domestic round type	1 3/5 bu. box	.82	1.00	.84	.80
Cantaloups, California	Jumbo crt.	4.67	5.92	6.52	6.70
Carrots, bunched, California	W. G. A. crt.	5.92	9.00	5.47	6.75
Carrots, topped, California	48-1 lb. film bags	4.50	7.00	4.68	5.75
Cauliflower, New York	Double-deck crt.	2.70	2.25	1.90	2.27
Celery, Golden Heart, New York	16-in. crt.	1.51	3.00	2.67	2.42
Celery, Pascal, New York	16-in. crt.	---	---	2.50	2.37
Celery, Pascal, California	16-in. crt.	4.04	4.46	3.39	4.42
Corn, green, yellow type, New York	5-doz. crt.	2.35	1.11	1.38	1.05
Cucumbers, New York	Bu.	4/ 2.15	6.00	2.12	3.75
Eggplant, New Jersey	Bu.	1.12	1.12	2.07	.98
Escarole, New Jersey	1½ bu. box	.85	1.50	1.21	.98
Honey Dews, California	Std. Crt.	3.50	2.80	3.59	4.40
Kale, Long Island	1½ bu. box	.75	.75	.75	.63
Lettuce, Iceberg type, California	2-doz. crtn.	5.36	3.32	3.15	3.20
Lettuce, Iceberg type, New York	2-doz. crt.	3.38	1.62	1.36	1.67
Onions, yellow, large size western	50-lb. sack	1.90	2.05	3.25	2.45
Onions, yellow, medium size, New York	50-lb. sack	.82	.83	1.35	1.29
Peas, green, western	Bu.	4.70	5/ 4.25	4.86	5.40
Peppers, green, New Jersey	Bu.	1.10	1.75	1.69	1.03
Tomatoes, eastern	12-qt. climax basket	1.18	---	1.33	2.25
Tomatoes, New York	6x6 and lgr. 60-lb. crt.	---	4.87	---	4.13
Chicago					
Beans, lima, Michigan	12-qt. bskt.	---	1.65	1.75	1.00
Beans, snap, green, Illinois 1/	Bu.	2.15	5.25	2.50	2.00
Beans, snap, green, Michigan	Bu.	2.35	4.75	3.50	2.75
Beets, bunched, Illinois	W. G. A. crt.	---	---	.35	.90
Cabbage, domestic round type, Illinois	50-60 lb. crt.	1.15	1.85	1.35	1.15
Cantaloups, California	Jumbo crt.	4.35	5.35	6.60	6.00
Carrots, bunched, California	W. G. A. crt.	4.65	8.00	5.15	5.50
Carrots, topped, California	48-lb. film bags	4.25	6.25	4.25	5.00
Cauliflower, Colorado	Pony crt.	3.00	2.75	3.00	2.65
Celery, Golden Heart, Michigan	½ crt.	1.15	1.65	1.15	1.35
Celery, Pascal, California	16-in. crt.	3.65	4.25	4.00	4.00
Corn, green, yellow type, Illinois	4 doz. crt and sack	---	---	1.00	1.15
Cucumbers, Illinois	Bu.	1.15	2.25	1.00	2.50
Cucumbers, Michigan	Bu.	---	3.60	1.25	2.50
Honey Dews, California	Std. crt.	4.50	3.15	3.15	4.00
Lettuce, Iceberg type, California	2-doz. crtn.	3.50	---	2.50	2.75
Onions, yellow, medium size, midwestern	50-lb sack	1.20	1.20	1.30	1.50
Peas, green, Colorado	Bu.	4.50	4.50	3.75	---
Peppers, green, Illinois	Bu.	1.35	2.50	1.60	1.25
Tomatoes, Michigan	10-lb. basket	---	---	1.65	.70
Tomatoes, Michigan	12-lb. basket	---	1.30	---	.75

1/ Valentine variety. 2/ Various varieties. 3/ 1½ bushel crate, 13 bunches. 4/ New Jersey. 5/ Fair quality. Prices submitted Tuesday of each week by the Market News Service representatives.

Table 7.- Vegetables, for commercial processing: Harvested acreage and estimated production, average 1943-52, annual 1953, and indicated 1954

Commodity	Harvested acreage: Average 1943-52	Harvested acreage: 1953	Harvested acreage: Preliminary 1954	Production: Average 1943-52	Production: 1953	Production: Indicated 1954	1954 as percentage of 1953
	Acres	Acres	Acres	Tons	Tons	Tons	Percent
Beans, lima 1/	83,160	109,710	110,800	63,020	106,550	98,570	92.5
Beans, snap	127,350	140,190	155,850	232,300	304,580	342,500	112.4
Beets	16,410	16,500	16,100	141,200	158,900	136,800	86.1
Corn, sweet 2/	467,630	506,940	465,050	1,205,400	1,519,900	1,434,500	94.4
Peas, green 1/	430,600	430,740	434,700	433,050	461,090	433,450	94.0
Pimientos	15,640	26,500	29,800	17,400	33,430	24,390	73.0
Tomatoes	448,500	295,100	260,200	3,038,600	3,228,830	2,581,250	79.9
Total	1,589,290	1,525,680	1,472,500	5,130,970	5,813,280	5,051,460	86.9
Asparagus	79,840	89,240	---	97,600	93,780	---	---
Cabbage for kraut:							
Contract	9,320	11,330	10,320	90,400	129,150	110,600	85.6
Open market	8,100	5,850	---	86,700	83,450	---	---
Cucumbers	120,940	150,020	---	232,560	332,880	---	---
Spinach:							
Winter and spring	27,850	23,010	20,630	81,130	88,730	75,740	85.4
Fall	10,900	4,630	---	32,740	19,390	---	---
Acreage and production 3/	1,845,050	1,809,760	---	5,743,520	6,560,660	---	---

1/ Production reported on a shelled basis. 2/ In husk. 3/ Total 11 crops for past seasons.

Table 8.- Vegetables, commercial for fresh market: Index numbers (unadjusted) of prices received by farmers, United States, as of the 15th of the month, indicated periods 1/ (1910-1914 = 100)

Period	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Average
1935-39	114	121	133	130	125	98	87	82	81	90	103	115	107
1947-49	288	305	310	308	277	215	207	196	193	204	241	246	249
Year													
1950	257	213	195	276	231	211	200	170	156	165	214	249	211
1951	338	346	288	333	276	215	203	197	190	211	290	343	269
1952	301	249	294	341	311	294	289	240	203	224	266	281	274
1953	263	275	267	233	259	298	252	207	191	198	218	224	240
1954	271	233	246	225	279	200	243	223					

1/ Revised. In addition to the vegetables included in the series published prior to Jan. 1954, the following have been added: broccoli, sweet corn, cucumbers, and watermelons.

Table 9.- Canned vegetables: United States commercial packs 1952 and 1953 and canners' and wholesale distributors' stocks, indicated periods in 1954, with comparisons

Commodity	Packs		Stocks					
			Canner 1/			Wholesale distributor 1/		
	1952	1953	Date	1953	1954	Date	1953	1954
	1,000 cases 24/2's	1,000 cases 24/2's		1,000 cases 24/2's	1,000 cases 24/2's		1,000 cases 24/2's	1,000 cases 24/2's
Major commodities								
Beans, snap	16,346	22,611	July 1	303	2,216	July 1	1,580	2,415
Corn, sweet	32,329	30,982	Aug. 1	1,934	4,557	"	3,632	3,490
Peas, green **	26,509	28,037	June 1	2,998	3,857	"	3,029	2,962
Tomatoes	27,981	22,334	July 1	5,749	4,794	"	3,597	3,012
Tomato juice 2/	35,807	37,754	"	6,857	11,483	"	2,814	2,824
Total	138,972	141,718	---	17,841	26,907	"	14,652	14,703
Minor commodities								
Asparagus *	4,354	4,018	Mar. 1	884	345	"	716	812
Beans, lima	2,316	3,085	Aug. 1	193	410	"	561	533
Beets	6,693	8,583	July 1	1,321	2,059	"	1,046	1,059
Carrots	2,775	2,747	"	551	1,028	"	480	429
Pickles	3/22,500	3/22,600		---	---		---	---
Pimientos	3/ 360	3/ 942		---	---		---	---
Pumpkin and squash	5,408	2,983	July 1	1,632	1,559	Jan. 1	1,047	668
Sauerkraut	3/9,580	3/11,450	Aug. 1	4/1,626	4/3,777	"	880	882
Potatoes	2,575	2,786		---	---		---	---
Sweetpotatoes	4,993	4,876		---	---		---	---
Spinach	6,114	5,407	Mar. 1	5/ 863	5/689	Jan. 1	899	729
Other greens	2,867	2,255		---	---		---	---
Tomato products:								
Catsup, chili sauce	15,271	14,970	July 1	5,131	4,522	July	1,158	1,065
Paste	5/8,366	5/6,454	"	5/2,878	5/1,356		---	---
Pulp and puree	4,684	3,643	"	5/1,456	5/ 580	Jan. 1	1,084	882
Sauce	5/8,446	5/5,012	"	5/3,283	5/1,398	"	587	722
Vegetables, mixed	3,554	3,630		---	---		---	---
Total, comparable minor items	110,856	105,441	---	19,818	17,723	---	8,458	7,781
Grand total, comparable items	249,828	247,159	---	37,659	44,630	---	23,110	22,484

1/ Wholesale distributors' stocks and canners' stocks of California (footnote 5/) converted from actual cases to standard cases of 24 No. 2 cans by S&HR Branch of AMS. 2/ Includes combination vegetable juices containing at least 70 percent tomato juice. 3/ Crop for processing converted to a canned basis by applying an overall conversion factor (pickles 68, pimientos 29, and sauerkraut 54 cases equivalent to 1 ton fresh). 4/ Reported in barrels; converted to 24/2's by using 14 cases to the barrel. 5/ California only. *1954 pack, 4,978,000 . **1954 pack 23,951. Canners' stock and pack data from National Canners Association, unless otherwise noted. Wholesale distributors' stocks from United States Department of Commerce, Bureau of Census.

Table 10.- Vegetables, frozen: United States commercial packs 1952 and 1953, and cold-storage holdings, September 1, 1954, with comparisons

Commodity	Packs		Cold-storage holdings		
	1952	1953	Sept. 1 Average 1949-53	Sept. 1 1953	Sept. 1 1954 1/
	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.
Asparagus 2/	25,460	32,945	15,537	22,718	21,533
Beans, green and wax	87,438	114,781	59,014	70,177	87,237
Beans, lima	113,926	138,595	39,744	40,003	54,658
Broccoli	82,253	89,043	17,085	30,084	27,446
Brussels sprouts	22,454	40,801	5,557	4,618	11,930
Carrots	22,269	29,332	3/	3/	3/
Cauliflower	33,166	35,710	5,702	10,765	10,546
Corn, cut	62,684	104,809	[26,961	33,880	66,120
Corn-on-cob	14,196	17,217	[		
Mixed vegetables	26,472	30,910	3/	3/	3/
Peas	203,726	222,543	180,755	230,560	195,622
Peas and carrots	18,033	23,672	3/	3/	3/
Pumpkin and squash	15,068	9,472	4,365	7,281	4,660
Rhubarb	5,684	8,349	3/	3/	3/
Spinach 2/	91,464	87,927	36,782	58,575	36,577
Succotash	11,769	14,190	3/	3/	3/
Miscellaneous vegetables	59,657	76,282	40,396	64,940	88,089
Total	895,719	1,076,578	431,898	573,601	604,418

1/ Preliminary. 2/ 1954 packs (prel.): Asparagus, 25,413 thousand pounds; spinach, 1954 spring pack, 43,198 thousand pounds compared to 66,887 thousand pounds in 1953. 3/ Included in miscellaneous vegetables.
Pack data from National Association of Frozen Food Packers.

Table 11.- United States average prices received by farmers for important field crops, August 15, 1954, with comparisons

Commodity and unit	Average		1953	1954		
	August 1909-July 1914	January 1947-December 1949	August 15	June 15	July 15	August 15
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
Potatoes, per bushel	.681	1.48	.842	1.51	1.49	1.41
Sweetpotatoes, per bushel	.878	2.36	3.50	2.70	3.02	2.59
Beans, dry, edible, per cwt.	3.37	9.92	9.38	8.03	7.88	7.72
Peas, dry, field, per cwt.	---	4.60	5.15	4.51	4.37	4.07

Table 12.- Potatoes: Acreage, yield per acre, and production, average 1943-52 annual 1953, and indicated 1954

Group of States	Acreage: Harvested: Average 1943-52	Acreage: Harvested: 1953	Acreage: For harvest 1954	Yield per acre: Average 1943-52	Yield per acre: 1953	Yield per acre: Indicated 1954	Production: Average 1943-52	Production: 1953	Production: Indicated 1954
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Bu.	Bu.	Bu.	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushel
Early									
13 States	402	305	239	162.7	214.6	223.9	61,695	65,548	53,513
Intermediate									
7 States	189	105	97	149.4	168.7	157.9	27,181	17,759	15,318
Late									
9 Eastern	505	370	343	264.1	299.5	296.2	127,396	110,858	101,67[illegible]
9 Central	599	353	332	145.1	181.1	186.3	79,676	63,834	61,84[illegible]
11 Western	443	375	370	261.4	308.6	306.2	113,079	115,712	113,166
Total late States	1,547	1,098	1,045	218.8	264.6	264.8	320,151	290,404	276,684
36 late and intermediate	1,736	1,203	1,142	211.5	256.2	255.7	347,332	308,163	292,002
Total, United States	2,138	1,508	1,381	202.3	247.8	250.2	409,027	373,711	345,515

Table 13.- Vegetables, commercial for fresh market: Average prices received by growers, U. S., August 1, 1954, with comparisons

Commodity	Unit	1953: July	1953: August	1954: June	1954: July	1954: August
		Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
Beans, lima	Bu.	2.40	2.85	1.90	3.25	2.45
Beans, snap	Bu.	2.85	2.45	2.00	2.85	2.20
Beets	Bu.	1.50	1.35	1.70	1.50	1.50
Broccoli	Crt.	2.75	3.05	3.30	3.45	3.90
Cabbage	Ton	5.36	40.40	28.50	40.70	39.70
Cantaloups	Crt.	2.95	3.00	4.00	2.90	2.80
Carrots	Bu.	2.55	2.00	3.00	2.55	1.95
Cauliflower	Crt.	1.55	1.85	1.65	1.65	2.20
Celery	Crt.	2.40	2.05	2.25	2.30	2.10
Corn, sweet	5doz.ears	2.25	2.05	1.65	2.30	1.75
Cucumbers	Bu.	2.65	2.00	1.90	3.30	1.50
Eggplant	Bu.	3.70	1.00	1.15	3.75	2.05
Lettuce	Crt.	2.95	5.90	2.65	2.00	2.60
Onions	Sack	1.05	.80	1.35	1.50	1.35
Peas, green	Bu.	2.00	2.25	2.60	2.05	2.50
Peppers, green	Bu.	2.10	1.60	1.45	2.65	1.65
Spinach	Bu.	1.20	1.35	.80	1.30	1.35
Tomatoes	Bu.	4.65	3.80	2.25	4.65	4.10
Watermelons	1,000melons	412.00	327.00	278.00	264.00	353.00

Table 14.- Potatoes: F.O.B. prices at various shipping points and representative wholesale prices (l.c.l.) at New York and (carlot sales) at Chicago for stock of generally good quality and condition (U.S. No. 1 size A, when available) per 100 pounds, indicated periods 1953 and 1954

Location and variety	Week ended			
	1953		1954	
	Aug. 12	Sept. 12	Aug. 14	Sept. 11
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
F. O. B. Shipping Points				
Central New Jersey points, Cobbler and Chippewa 1/	1.62	1.54	2.94	2.20
Gilcrest Colorado, Round Red 2/	3/ 1.65	3/ 1.34	2.82	2.77
Riverhead, Long Island and nearby points, Cobbler 1/	1.47	1.38	2.60	1.96
Rochester, western and central New York, various varieties 1/	---	1.39	---	2.26
Wisconsin points, various varieties 1/	---	1.28	---	2.07
Western Idaho and Malheur County, Oregon, Russet Burbank 2/	3/ 2.02	4/ 2.58	3.11	2.82
Yakima Valley, Washington, Russet Burbank 2/ 3/	1.79	2.19	2.88	2.34
	Tuesday nearest mid-month			
	Aug. 18	Sept. 15	Aug. 17	Sept. 14
Terminal markets				
New York				
Cobbler, Long Island 1/	1.81	1.80	2.80	5/ 2.45
Long White, California 2/	3.95	---	5.50	---
Russet Burbank, Idaho 2/	---	6/ 5.08	---	4.90
Chicago				
Round Red, midwestern 2/	---	2.40	---	2.75
Round Red, Idaho and Oregon 2/	3.22	---	4.35	---
Russet Burbank, Idaho 2/	---	4.75	---	4.00
Long White, Idaho and Oregon 2/	3.15	---	4.25	---

1/ Unwashed stock.
2/ Washed stock
3/ 2-inch minimum
4/ Sales f.o.b. cash track.
5/ Katahdin
6/ U. S. No. 1
Prices submitted for Tuesday of each week by the Market News representative at New York and Chicago.

Table 15.- Sweetpotatoes: Acreage, yield per acre, and production, average 1943-52, annual 1953, and indicated 1954

Group and State	Acreage: Harvested: Average 1943-52	Acreage: Harvested: 1953	Acreage: For harvest 1954	Yield per acre: Average 1943-52	Yield per acre: 1953	Yield per acre: Indicated 1954	Production: Average 1943-52	Production: 1953	Production: Indicated 1954
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Bu.	Bu.	Bu.	1,000 bu.	1,000 bu.	1,000 bu.
Central Atlantic 1/	46.3	40.4	42.3	130	162	133	6,002	6,531	5,633
Lower Atlantic 2/	177.2	110.0	99.0	91	94	75	16,089	10,288	7,410
South Atlantic 3/	301.8	183.2	187.5	87	85	77	26,234	15,520	14,350
North Central 4/	11.3	5.1	4.7	98	62	77	1,111	315	363
California	11.0	11.0	12.0	110	120	115	1,201	1,320	1,380
TOTAL U. S.	547.1	349.7	345.5	93	97	84	50,637	33,974	29,136

1/ New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, and Virginia. 2/ North Carolina, South Carolin G eorgia, and Florida. 3/ Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas. 4/ Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Missouri, and Kansas.

Table 16.- Sweetpotatoes: F. O. B. prices at various shipping points representative wholesale market prices (l.c.l. sales) at New York and Chicago for stock of generally good quality and condition (U.S. No.1, when available), indicated periods, 1953 and 1954.

Location and variety	Unit	Weed ended: 1953: Aug. 15	Weed ended: 1953: Sept. 12	Weed ended: 1954: Aug. 14	Weed ended: 1954: Sept. 11
		Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
F.O.B. Shipping Points					
Southern Louisiana, Porto Rican	50-lb. crt	2.94	2.46	2.14	2.54
Eastern Shore Virginia, Golden and Oklahoma	Bu.	---	1.66	---	1.82
		Tuesday nearest mid-month			
NEW YORK		Aug. 18	Sept. 15	Aug.17	Sept. 14
Golden, Virginia	Bu.	---	2.22	---	2.15
Porto Rican, Louisiana	50-lb. crt.	4.18	3.75	3.63	3.50
CHICAGO					
Porto Rican, Louisiana	50-lb. crt.	3.30	3.25	2.50	3.30

F.O.B. prices are simple averages of the range of daily prices, compiled from Market News Service reports. The market prices are representative prices for Tuesday of each week and are submitted by the Market News Service representative at each market.

Table 17.-Beans, dry, edible: Acreage, yield per acre, and production, average 1943-52, annual 1953, and indicated 1954

States and class	Acreage: Harvested: Average 1943-52	Acreage: Harvested: 1953	Acreage: For harvest 1954	Yield per acre: Average 1943-52	Yield per acre: 1953	Yield per acre: Indicated 1954	Production 1/: Average 1943-52	Production 1/: 1953	Production 1/: Indicated 1954
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags
Maine, New York, and Michigan 2/	623	513	601	922	1,077	970	5,690	5,513	5,828
Neb., Mont., Idaho, Wyo., and Washington 3/	318	312	365	1,554	1,809	1,728	4,893	5,643	6,309
Colo., N. Mex., Ariz., Utah 4/	449	290	291	587	868	810	2,501	2,518	2,358
California:									
Large lima	81	68	73	1,521	1,857	1,900	1,212	1,263	1,387
Baby lima	69	36	40	1,552	1,950	1,800	1,061	702	720
Other 5/	186	179	211	1,201	1,377	1,200	2,243	2,465	2,532
TOTAL U. S.	1,725	1,398	1,581	1,037	1,296	1,210	17,600	18,114	19,134

1/ Bags of 100 pounds, uncleaned beans; includes beans for seed.
2/ Largely Pea beans, but most important source also of Red Kidney, Yelloweye, and Cranberry.
3/ Largely Great Northern, but Idaho also is the most important source of Small Reds.
4/ Largely Pinto beans.
5/ Mostly Blackeye, Small White, and Pink.

Table 18.- Peas, dry, field: Acreage, yield per acre, and production average 1943-52, annual 1953, and preliminary 1954 1/

State	Acreage: Harvested: Average 1943-52	Acreage: Harvested: 1953	Acreage: For harvest 1954	Yield per acre: Average 1943-52	Yield per acre: 1953	Yield per acre: Preliminary 1954	Production 2/: Average 1943-52	Production 2/: 1953	Production 2/: Indicated 1954
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags
Minnesota	4	4	5	957	1,150	1,200	39	46	60
North Dakota	9	5	7	1,024	1,400	700	100	70	49
Montana	20	6	4	1,217	1,120	1,300	230	67	52
Idaho	128	90	104	1,300	1,275	1,350	1,668	1,148	1,404
Wyoming	3	6	4	1,256	1,600	1,500	43	96	60
Colorado	16	6	6	913	1,100	900	146	66	54
Washington	221	125	146	1,261	1,300	1,400	2,837	1,625	2,044
Oregon	26	14	11	1,115	1,100	950	299	154	57
California	3/ 15	6	7	3/1,119	1,300	1,250	3/ 158	78	88
United States	443	262	294	1,238	1,279	1,338	5,519	3,350	3,868

1/ In principal commercial producing States. Includes peas grown for seed and cannery peas harvested dry.
2/ Bags of 100 pounds, uncleaned.
3/ Short-time average.

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